

CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

FOR 1951

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# Clacton Urban District Council

CHAIRMAN :

Mr. H. P. KING, J.P., C.C.

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

Mr. K. ELLIOTT

## MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Miss A. M. TILSON  
Mr. F. W. WAGSTAFF, J.P.

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

F. GROARKE, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H., D.C.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health

GEO. H. SMITH, M.S.I.A., M.I.P.C., R.S.I. CERT. MEAT AND FOODS,  
R.S.I. Cert. Sanitary Science,  
R.S.I. Adv. Cert. in Practical and Adminis-  
trative Duties.  
Institute of Hygiene Cert. Advanced Hygiene  
and Physiology.  
Institute of Public Cleansing Diploma.  
Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Officer.  
(Retired 31 December, 1951).

N. HAWKINS, M.S.I.A., CERT.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods.  
Additional Sanitary Inspector.

J. ROYLE, M.S.I.A., A.R.SAN.I., Cert. Meat and Foods.  
Additional Sanitary Inspector.

E. H. NORFOLK, Senior Clerk.

Miss E. P. JOHNS, Junior Clerk.

S. HODGKINSON, M.S.I.A., M.R.SAN.I.  
Appointed Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Officer  
1st January, 1952.

# CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
CLACTON-ON-SEA,  
AUGUST, 1952

## TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Miss Tilson, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report which deals with the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1951.

The vital statistics for the year, in-so-far as they may be used as an index of the general health of the population, may again be said to be satisfactory.

Our birth rate is again low, but only six infants under one year of age died which gives us the exceptionally low infantile mortality rate of 21.2 which compares very favourably with the national figure.

Disease of the heart and blood vessels was the cause of death in more than half the total number occurring, which is substantially the same as last year. The vast majority occurred in the older age groups. People are living longer now-a-days and for that reason we must expect deaths under this heading to increase as our heart, with increasing age, has an increasing strain put on it by reason of loss of elasticity in the arteries, which in turn causes an increase in blood pressure thereby rendering a weakened artery more liable to burst, causing a stroke.

We have had a big increase in the number of cases of measles, and to a lesser extent an increase in cases of infective hepatitis (jaundice) and whooping cough, whereas we were fortunate to have had only one case of poliomyelitis in our district.

In presenting this report, I wish to thank the Council for their support, and also to express my appreciation for the help and co-operation received from the various officers and their departments of the Council, and particularly to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Public Health Staff.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,

F. GROARKE,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM

Urban District	....	....	....	....	....	....	Urban District of Clacton
Area in acres	....	....	....	....	....	....	6,470
Population :							
1951 Census	....	....	....	....	....	....	24,065
1951 Registrar General's estimate	....	....	....	....	....	....	23,980
Density of Population per acre	....	....	....	....	....	....	3.7
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	....	£286,300
Sum represented by a penny rate	....	....	....	....	....	....	£1,150
Number of inhabited houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	9,450
Total Live Births	....	....	....	....	....	....	283
Birth Rate	....	....	....	....	....	....	11.8
Birth Rate corrected	....	....	....	....	....	....	13.3
Total Still Births	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Still Birth Rate	....	....	....	....	....	....	37.4
Total Deaths	....	....	....	....	....	....	372
Death Rate (crude)	....	....	....	....	....	....	15.5
Death Rate corrected	....	....	....	....	....	....	10.8
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Infant Mortality Rate	....	....	....	....	....	....	21.2
Number of Illegitimate Births	....	....	....	....	....	....	22
Percentage of Total Births	....	....	....	....	....	....	7.8
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Cancer Deaths	....	....	....	....	....	....	59
Tuberculosis Deaths	....	....	....	....	....	....	9

## VITAL STATISTICS

(a) LIVE BIRTHS:

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	....	157	104	261
Illegitimate	....	10	12	22
		—	—	—
		167	116	283
		—	—	—

Birth rate .... 11.8 per 1,000 population

Percentage of illegitimate births .... 7.8

The birth rate of England & Wales was 15.5 per 1,000 population, our rate is therefore 3.7 below that for the country generally

The reason for this inequality is due to the difference in the age and sex distribution of the Urban District from the country as a whole.

A comparability factor is therefore issued by the Registrar General. The figure for Clacton is 1.13 giving a corrected birth rate of 13.3.

(b) STILL BIRTHS:

There were 11 still births (10 legitimate, 1 illegitimate) during the year, equivalent to a rate of 0.45 per 1,000 population as compared with 0.36 for the country generally, or 37.4 per 1,000 total births.

(c) DEATHS:

The total number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Urban District was 372 (188 male and 184 female). This is equal to a death rate of 15.5 per 1,000 population compared with a rate of 12.5 for the country generally.

This inequality is due to the reasons given in the paragraph on births. The comparability factor is 0.70 giving a corrected death rate of 10.8.

Of the 372 deaths, the number over the age of 65 years totalled 286 giving a percentage of 76.8.

The causes of death are given in Table II.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

There were 6 deaths (5 legitimate, 1 illegitimate) of children under 1 year of age. The infantile mortality based upon the number of live births registered in the year, i.e. 283, is equivalent to a rate of 21.2 per 1,000 births compared with a rate of 29.6 for the country.

The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age since 1930:—

1930	....	6	1941	....	9
1931	....	8	1942	....	7
1932	....	10	1943	....	1
1933	....	8	1944	....	10
1934	....	6	1945	....	11
1935	....	12	1946	....	9
1936	....	15	1947	....	11
1937	....	10	1948	....	7
1938	....	13	1949	....	7
1939	....	14	1950	....	7
1940	....	5	1951	....	6

Among the principal causes of death are the following :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	5
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	8
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	8
Influenza	....	....	....	....	8
Cancer	....	....	....	....	59
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	....	....	....	....	55
Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	149

TABLE I.

## DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1951

Under 1 year	....	....	....	....	6
1 and under 2 years	....	....	....	....	—
2 and under 5 years	....	....	....	....	2
5 and under 15 years	....	....	....	....	2
15 and under 25 years	....	....	....	....	2
25 and under 35 years	....	....	....	....	2
35 and under 45 years	....	....	....	....	8

45 and under 55 years	...	...	...	...	15
55 and under 65 years	...	...	...	...	49
65 and under 75 years	...	...	...	...	108
75 and upwards	...	...	...	...	178
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	372
					—

TABLE II.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1951 (R.G.)

Causes of Death		Male	Female	T
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	...	4	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	...	3	1
Meningococcal Infections	....	...	1	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	....	...	1	1
Cancer	....	...	30	29
Diabetes	....	...	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	....	27	28	5
Heart Disease	....	...	66	83
Other Circulatory Diseases	....	...	8	12
Influenza	....	...	4	4
Pneumonia	....	...	3	5
Bronchitis	....	...	6	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	....	1	2	
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	5	1	
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	....	1	2	
Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	4	1	
Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	6	—	
Congenital Malformations	....	1	—	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	....	10	10	2
Motor vehicle accidents	....	1	—	
All other accidents	....	4	—	
Suicide	....	2	1	
		—	—	—
All causes	...	188	184	37
		—	—	—

**TABLE III.****INFANTILE DEATHS**

The following table shows the cause of, and the ages at death, of the 6 infantile deaths registered :—

	Under 1 day	1 day to 1 week	1 week to 1 month	Total
Prematurity	—	1	—	1
Atelectasis	1	3	—	4
Gastro-enteritis	—	—	1	1
Totals	1	4	1	6

**TABLE IV.****COMPARATIVE STATISTICS**

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1951. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

Rates per 1,000 Home Population.

England  
C.U.D.C. & Wales

**Births:**

Live Births (Corrected)	....	....	....	13.3	15.5
Still Births	....	....	....	0.45	0.36

**Deaths:**

All Causes (Corrected)	....	....	....	10.8	12.5
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	....	....	....	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	0.00	0.01
Diphtheria	....	....	....	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	....	....	....	0.37	0.31
Influenza	....	....	....	0.33	0.38
Smallpox	....	....	....	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including encephalitis)	....	....	....	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia	....	....	....	0.33	0.61

**Notifications (corrected)**

Typhoid Fever	....	....	....	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	....	....	....	0.00	0.02
Meningococcal infection	....	....	....	0.00	0.03
Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	0.75	1.11
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	0.91	3.87
Diphtheria	....	....	....	0.00	0.02

					C.U.D.C.	Engla & Wa
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.0
Measles	...	...	...	...	17.2	14.0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.1
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)—						
Paralytic	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.0
Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	0.04	0.0
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.1

Rates per 1,000 Live Births

**Deaths:**

All causes under 1 year of age	....	....	21.2	29.6
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age			0.04	1.4

**Notifications (corrected)**

		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Puerperal Fever and pyrexia	....	....	0.00 10.6

**MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND & WALES**

Cause	C.U.D.C.	England	C.U.D.C.	Engla
		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births)		& Wales
Sepsis of pregnancy, child- birth and the puerperium	0.00	0.10		
Other toxæmias of preg- nancy and the puerperium	0.00	0.24		
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and child birth	....	0.00	0.13	
Abortion without sepsis or toxæmia	....	0.00	0.05	— 4
Abortion with sepsis	....	0.00	0.09	— 7
Other complications of preg- nancy, childbirth and the puerperium	....	0.00	0.18	

## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### (a) STAFFING:

(i) The Medical Officer of Health holds the following appointments:—

Medical Officer of Health to the Urban Districts of Clacton, Brightlingsea, Frinton & Walton, and to the Rural District of Tendring.

Assistant County Medical Officer and Assistant School Medical Officer to the Essex County Council.

#### (ii) Sanitary Inspectors:

Sanitary Inspectors are members of a team of health workers which include doctors, nurses, social workers, and various medical auxiliaries ; each member of the team contributes his quota to the promotion of good health, social welfare, and the alleviation of suffering among the population. Sanitary Inspectors are concerned with the special field of environmental health, which includes the places where people live and work, the food and drink they consume, the air they breath, the influence on health of deleterious conditions in the neighbourhood, the securing of good hygienic conditions wherever they are found below standard, and certain aspects of infectious and other diseases.

The Sanitary Inspector should be regarded as a specialised health worker in the field of preventive medicine.

#### (b) LABORATORY FACILITIES:

Pathological specimens are examined at the Laboratory, Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

Samples of water, sewage, etc., for chemical analysis are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

The Bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk supplies, ice cream, etc., is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich.

It is necessary for the health department of any authority to make full use of the laboratory facilities in the area, and I would like to express my appreciation for the co-operation and help which this department has received from the staff of these laboratories.

(c) **HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ESSEX COUNCIL.**

- (i) Nursing in the Home.
- (ii) Midwives.
- (iii) Health Visitors.
- (iv) Home Helps.
- (v) Immunisation.
- (vi) Clinics.
- (vii) School Medical Service.
- (viii) Ambulance Service.

**Maternity and Child Welfare:**

The main Clinic is provided at the combined Clinic premises Skelmersdale Road, Clacton. This Clinic is centrally situated and there are three sessions each week:

Tuesday morning	9.30 a.m.—12 noon.
Thursday morning	9.30 a.m.—12 noon.
Thursday afternoon	2 p.m.—4 p.m.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer is in attendance.

In addition to the Central Clinic, smaller subsidiary Clinics are held at Holland-on-Sea and Jay-Wick.

Diphtheria Immunisations are carried out at the Clinic, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

**Minor Ailments Clinic:**

School children attend the Clinic, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

**Special Clinics:**

Women's Welfare, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Child Guidance Clinics to which women and children residing in the Urban District can attend are held at the premises in Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

**Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics:**

These are held at the Clinic, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

**Dental Clinic:**

When necessary at Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

**Psychiatrist Clinic:**

A Clinic is held every Friday between 2 and 4 p.m. by appointment.

d)

## HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

### (i) Tuberculosis:

A chest clinic is held at No. 2 Shewell Road, Colchester, daily, and on Friday mornings at the Combined Treatment Centre, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

### (ii) Venereal Disease:

Facilities are provided at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester, and at Harwich.

### (iii) Hospital for the Chronic Sick:

Heath Hospital, Tendring.

St. Mary's Hospital, Colchester.

### (iv) Hospital for Infectious Diseases:

Myland Hospital, Colchester.

### (v) Maternity:

Woodboro' Nursing Home, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

Maternity Hospital, Lexden Road, Colchester.

### (vi) General:

Clacton Hospital.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

It was not necessary during 1951 to take action which empowers Local Authorities to remove to hospital persons in need of care and attention.

There are many old persons in this, as in other districts, living alone who would undoubtedly be better cared for physically in an institution where they would have regular suitable food, clean clothes and a clean bed to sleep in, but human nature being what it is, the majority of these persons prefer to be left in their own homes no matter how insanitary that is. The mental well-being of these old persons is of equal importance to physical care, and it is only when we have exhausted all other channels of help that we consider taking action under the above Acts.

We try to arrange for a relative to help, but the cases which are brought to our notice are usually those that have no relatives or have relatives who are unable or unwilling to help.

The Home Help Service is of great value in such cases. We arrange and pay a women to visit daily and assist in the running of the home. Unfortunately suitable Home Helps are scarce and the service is an expensive one for the County Council to maintain, but this service has been a success and is becoming more and more in demand, particularly for the aged and infirm for whom adequate institutional accommodation is lacking.

## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. WATER.

The main source of the water supply to this district is from the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company's Wells at Lawford and Dedham.

Two Wells, owned by this Council and situated at Great Bentley and St. Osyth, supply water to the town during the summer months, and may also supply water to the parish of St. Osyth in the Tendring Rural District.

			GALLONS	
		1949	1950	1951
Tendring Hundred....	....	320,526,000	297,707,000	299,070,000
Waterworks Co. ....	....	48,434,000	69,403,000	67,488,000
Great Bentley ....	....	Nil	10,560,000	9,756,000
St. Osyth ....	....	368,960,000	377,670,000	376,314,000

Bacteriological examinations made of the raw water before it passes into the distribution mains have proved satisfactory, and in addition, the water supplied from the various sources is chlorinated as an additional precautionary measure.

It is usual for some deterioration in quality to take place before use at the consumer's premises. Samples of water taken at properties in the district frequently show this, and measures are taken to ascertain the source of the pollution if such deterioration has occurred. The storage of water in open cisterns under the roof is a cause for deterioration in some cases, while another frequently discovered reason is the anti-splash device fitted to the tap in the kitchen. This device may act as a trap for any organic matter in the water, which matter may act as a culture medium for bacteria and give rise to contamination of the water.

#### Bacteriological Examinations.

Sampling Point		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Works, Old Road, Clacton	....	3	1
District Mains ....	....	11	2
Consumers' Premises ....	....	51	7

#### CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

##### HARDNESS

The water supplied by the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company's Lawford Works is very much harder than a larger proportion of public supplies and is unusually hard for main water.

The Company's new source at Dedham is, however, capable of providing a water of 200 p.p.m. less in total hardness than Lawford, so that the mixture of the two waters should result in a reduction of at least 30 p.p.m. of total hardness.

The advantages of a softer water are a saving of soap (a reduction of 180 parts would give a saving of between two and three pounds of soap per head per year), saving in work and deterioration of fabrics, also a reduction in deposits of scale in domestic and industrial water heating apparatus.

It is practicable to soften the water to a reasonable level, but the capital charges for plant and the operational cost would be considerable, particularly as the water supplied from both sources show a high chlorine content, and therefore have a latent corrosive tendency. Any softening process must be carefully regulated to avoid accentuating this characteristic. The cost of softening this water would probably be in excess of 5d. per thousand gallons, and would reduce the hardness from the 'very hard' to the 'moderately hard' class which would not be sufficient to prevent the deposition of scale on water heating apparatus, but would slow the process down.

The Company must, if and when the Ministry of Housing and Local Government shall so require, soften their water so that it shall not have a hardness exceeding 180 parts per million.

## CORROSION

Consumers complain that the water supplied at their premises is sometimes discoloured. The substance which discolours the water is iron oxide which results from a reaction between the water and the main and has no connection with the hardness of the water. Considerable lengths of distribution mains are in varying stages of encrustation, and work is proceeding in scraping this deposit from the worst affected mains.

The corrosion which occurs in the water mains in our district is caused by different factors in both sources of supply.

The high chloride content of the water supplied by the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company is the main reason from this source while a very unsavourable feature from the aspect of corrosion of the water supplied from the Council's own sources is the faintly acid reaction due to the high content of free carbon dioxide.

The Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company have recently introduced measures to reduce the corrosive tendencies of the water which they supply to this district, which include aeration, alteration of the pH by the use of soda ash, and by mostly using water from the newer Dedham Works, have lowered the chloride content of the bulk supply.

The Wells at Great Bentley and St. Osyth were closed down eight months of the year and were in operation for the summer months only. Circumstances at these Works make it impossible to remove the carbon dioxide by aeration without alterations requiring very considerable expenditure which would be out of proportion to the small output. Corrosive action on metals would be anticipated due to the slightly acid reaction and it would be advisable to avoid the use of lead with this water if untreated in order to rule out the possibility of plumb solvent action.

The effects of corrosion are that the carrying capacity of the mains are affected by the formation of these deposits. Another effect is that this encrustation is soft and in the wet state is easily scraped off the mains. When velocity of the water in the main is increased, some of this encrustation comes away from the main and discolours the water—hence the complaints which we receive. A further effect is that the main itself may become defective and allow the entrance of organic matter thereby causing deterioration of the water during its passage to the consumer.

### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Parts per million of the Area's Water Supply.

	Clacton U.D.C.	Tendring Hundred Waterworks C	St. Osyth Pumping Station	Gt. Bentley Pumping Station	Lawford Works	Dedham Works
Colour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Less than 10	Less than 10
Reaction pH	6.3	6.1	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4
Electric Conductivity	420	480	2250	2250	1020	1020
Chlorine in Chlorides	34	43	590	590	160	160
Hardness: Total	155	180	500	500	280	280
Carbonate	40	20	270	270	260	260
Non-Carbonate	115	160	230	230	220	220
Nitrate Nitrogen	14	15	0	0	0	0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000	0.000				
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.017	0.030				
Metals: Iron	0.15	Absent	0.40	0.40	0.20	0.20
Turbidity	Less than 3	Nil	4	4	4	4
Odour	Nil	Light chlorinous	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	46	48	19	19	18	18
Total Solids	280	320	1450	1450	670	670

Alkalinity as Carbonate	....	....	Calcium	40	20	270	260
Nitrate Nitrogen	....	....		Less than 0.01	Absent	0.01	0.01
Oxygen Absorbed	....	....		0.30	0.45	0.35	0.10
Residual Chlorine	....	....		Absent	0.20	0.10	0.18
Free Ammonia	....	....				1.40	0.44
Albuminoid Ammonia	....	....				0.02	Nil

\* This figure is reduced to 6 after aeration.

There are 10,060 (approx.) premises taking a water supply for a resident population of 24,000 and a summer population of 75,000.

About 19 permanent dwellings are supplied by standpipes, also the Jay-Wick area has some 1,000 summer chalets housing approximately 7,000 holiday-makers in the summer who obtain their water from standpipes off the main supply.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

226 yards of 9" diameter surface water sewers provided along Marine Parade East between First Avenue and Hazlemere Road. These sewers were constructed by Contract under the Private Street Works Act, 1892.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of Infected Houses:

(a) Council Houses	....	....	1 (Requisitioned)
(b) Other Houses	....	....	10
(c) Caravans	....	....	3

Number of Houses Disinfested:

(a) Council Houses	....	....	1
(b) Other Houses	....	....	10
(c) Caravans	....	....	3

The methods employed are stripping of skirtings, etc., where necessary, spraying with insecticide, fumigation, and steam disinfection of bedding.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

### PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupi prosecu (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	44	10		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	124	83		
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3				
Total		168	93	—	—

## 2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number cases in which prosecution were institute (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	4	8	7	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient	9	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	7	9	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	1	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork)	12	5	2	—	—	—
Total		21	20	—	—	—

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### OUTWORK

(Section 110).

Nature of Work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Section 110		
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110(1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (5)
Wearing apparel—Making, etc., Cleaning and Wash- ing	13	21	—	—
Artificial flowers	28	1	—	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

The following is a synopsis of the principal work carried out by the Department during 1951:—

Special Visits	....	....	....	....	....	3440
Special Visits re Nuisances	....	....	....	....	....	830
Re-inspections of Premises	....	....	....	....	....	1077
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	534
Piggery Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	143
Stable Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	15
Inspections re Dogs	....	....	....	....	....	4
Inspections re Poultry Houses and Runs	....	....	....	....	....	75
Inspections—Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	....	9
Offensive Trade Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	6
Fish Friers' Premises Inspected	....	....	....	....	....	43
Hairdressers' Premises Inspected	....	....	....	....	....	8
Smoke Observations	....	....	....	....	....	10
Cinema—Sanitary Accommodation Inspected	....	....	....	....	....	3
Inspections at Licensed Victuallers' Premises	....	....	....	....	....	9
Private School Conveniences Inspected	....	....	....	....	....	1
Visits re Drain Tests and Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	371
Preliminary Notices served	....	....	....	....	....	220
Statutory Notices served	....	....	....	....	....	5
Letters to Owners re Nuisances	....	....	....	....	....	102

Improvements following Preliminary Notices	....	464
Improvements following Statutory Notices	....	8
Improvements without Notices....	....	356
Premises at which Nuisances abated	....	496

## DRAINAGE—Burrsville.

Premises redrained and connected to sewer	....	2
Cesspools abolished	....	2
Premises drained, awaiting connection to sewer	....	47

### London Road Area

Premises redrained and connected to sewer	....	4
Cesspools abolished	....	4
Premises drained, awaiting connection to sewer	....	1

The following were the principal Improvements obtained:—

Roofs repaired	....	....	....	....	....	22
Chimneys repaired	....	....	....	....	....	1
Chimney Pots provided	....	....	....	....	....	2
Eaves gutters repaired or provided	....	....	....	....	....	8
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	....	7
Briekwork repaired or repointed	....	....	....	....	....	1
Walls repaired	....	....	....	....	....	17
Air brieks provided	....	....	....	....	....	15
Wall Plaster repaired	....	....	....	....	....	33
Ceiling Plaster repaired	....	....	....	....	....	28
Windows provided	....	....	....	....	....	2
Windows repaired	....	....	....	....	....	36
Window reveals repointed	....	....	....	....	....	21
Sasheords provided	....	....	....	....	....	48
Window Sills repaired	....	....	....	....	....	19
Natural Lighting improved (Trees lopped)	....	....	....	....	....	5
Permanent Ventilation provided	....	....	....	....	....	1
Doors repaired	....	....	....	....	....	15
Door Frames repaired	....	....	....	....	....	1
Door Loeks repaired	....	....	....	....	....	4
Door Steps repaired	....	....	....	....	....	3
Staircases repaired	....	....	....	....	....	6
Floors repaired or relaid	....	....	....	....	....	45
Sub Floor concrete laid	....	....	....	....	....	1
Skirtings repaired	....	....	....	....	....	9
Fireplaees repaired or provided	....	....	....	....	....	11
Kitehen Ranges repaired or provided	....	....	....	....	....	2
Flues repaired	....	....	....	....	....	3

Boilers repaired or provided	....	....	....	1
Hot Water Tanks fitted	....	....	....	1
Hot Water System repaired or provided	....	....	....	11
Storage Tank provided	....	....	....	2
W.C. Cisterns repaired or provided	....	....	....	15
W.C. Basins provided	....	....	....	3
W.C. Seats repaired or provided	....	....	....	3
W.C. Joints repaired	....	....	....	1
W.C. Artificial Light provided	....	....	....	1
W.C. Compartment Doors lettered	....	....	....	2
W.C. Compartments Cleansed	....	....	....	7
W.C. Compartments repaired	....	....	....	3
Chemical Closet repaired	....	....	....	1
Water Closets provided	....	....	....	10
Pail Closet repaired	....	....	....	1
Pail Closets abolished	....	....	....	10
Sink Wastes fitted or repaired	....	....	....	18
Sinks provided	....	....	....	4
Gullies provided	....	....	....	4
Gully Surrounds repaired	....	....	....	3
Wash Hand Basin provided	....	....	....	1
Inspeetion Chambers provided	...	....	....	4
Inspection Chambers repaired	....	....	....	21
Stoppers provided to cleansing eyes	....	....	....	5
Fresh Air Inlets repaired or provided	....	....	....	8
Vent Shafts repaired or provided	....	....	....	11
Drains relaid	....	....	....	6
New Drains laid	....	....	....	12
Premises connected to sewer	....	....	....	10
Cesspools abolished	....	....	....	8
Cesspool Covers renewed	....	....	....	4
Drains repaired	....	....	....	5
Drains cleared	....	....	....	49
Soil Pipes renewed or repaired	....	....	....	4
Main Water Services provided	....	....	....	4
Water Services repaired	....	....	....	8
Standpipes abolished	....	....	....	3
Well abolished	....	....	....	1
Flooding abated	....	....	....	1
Ditches cleared	....	....	....	3
Yards paved	....	....	....	6
Yards tidied	....	....	....	2
Accumulations of refuse removed	....	....	....	16
Overgrown Land cleared	....	....	....	4
Premises rat-proofed	....	....	....	1
Premises limewashed	....	....	....	22

Walls cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Stables unsuitable—discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pig Sty erected	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pig Sties reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Piggery Manure Stcnd provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Glass Show Cases provided for food	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factory Register completed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Un-licensed Movable Dwelling discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	119
					Total Improvements	828

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

18 cases of Scarlet Fever investigated.  
 1 case of Encephalitis investigated.  
 1 case of suspected Meningitis investigated.  
 1 case of Measles investigated.  
 1 case of suspected Infectious Disease investigated.  
 9 visits re Small-Pox contacts.  
 13 other visits to premises in connection with Infectious Diseases.  
 36 rooms, bedding, etc., disinfected.  
 37 quantities of bedding etc., steam disinfected.  
 104 Library books disinfected.  
 8 Caravans disinfected.  
 3 Hospital wards disinfected.  
 1 Tuberculosis Shelter disinfected.

## VERMIN, MOTH, ETC.

16 inspections at premises.  
 51 rooms fumigated.  
 3 Caravans fumigated.  
 9 Quantities of bedding steam disinfected.  
 10 Carpets steam disinfected.  
 21 Underfelts steam disinfected.

## SHOPS ACT, 1934.

4 inspections of sanitary accommodation.

## MILK AND DAIRIES ORDERS.

Dairies registered	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dairies licensed to retail T.T. & Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dairy inspections	...	...	...	...	...	27
Milk dumps inspected	...	...	...	...	...	11

24 Samples of Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk were submitted for examination.  
2 Samples failed to satisfy the phosphatase test for Pasteurised milk.  
4 Samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were submitted for examination.  
All were satisfactory.  
61 Samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted for examination.  
1 failed to satisfy the phosphatase test.

## WATER ANALYSIS AND EXAMINATION.

The undermentioned samples were taken:—

58 from Town supply.  
8 from Wells.

## BATHING POOLS.

4 Samples of water were submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis.

## CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES.

There are twelve licensed Camping Grounds in the district. In addition, ten individual movable dwelling licenses have been issued during the year.

The combined area of the Camping Grounds is 58.05 acres, and the twelve licensed camps can accommodate 1,520 Movable Dwellings.

416 inspections were made of camping sites.

It is true to say with regard to the above, that legislation has failed to keep pace with the growth of the large commercial caravan sites which have become such a feature since the late war.

Holidays in caravans have become increasingly popular mainly because it is the only type of holiday that many persons can afford. A family can by this means take a holiday at the seaside for as little as £6 or so per week plus of course, travelling expenses and food, which is very much less money than would be required if a hotel or boarding house were chosen.

If a site owner is fortunate enough to own a licensed site in a favourable position, he can command £20—£25 per season merely for allowing the parking of a caravan on the site. Caravans are parked on a site usually for the whole season if not the whole year, and are there for the purpose of hiring out to those who wish to rent cheap accommodation. These caravans are movable dwellings, but mobility plays no part in their normal use, and must not be compared to the casual mobile cara-

vanner who moves from place to place, stopping for short periods only avoiding these commercial sites which in any case may be full and so cannot accommodate him.

Many of the caravans parked in seaside sites are owned by small investors who buy caravans solely to hire out and who place them on commercial sites for this purpose. The owner is not particularly interested in caravanning, and the user is interested solely in renting the cheapest form of holiday.

These caravans are in fact being used as houses. Hundreds of them may be parked in rows for the whole year and occupied throughout the holiday season. In some instances the sanitation provided by the site owner is primitive and likely to create insanitary conditions. There is, with insanitary conditions, a constant risk that certain serious infectious diseases may be spread.

We, as a sanitary authority, are interested chiefly in two problems ; liquid wastes and closet accommodation. Liquid waste is water that may have been used in the preparation and cooking of food, washing up after meals, personal washing and the washing of clothes which may include soiled babies napkins. It is easy to see how this water is liable to contamination, and its disposal should receive careful consideration. The only satisfactory method for such disposal is the provision on the site of an adequate system of drains for the reception, conveyance, and approved disposal of such wastes. The storage of such wastes in mobile tanks stationed at intervals is unsatisfactory except for the smallest sites.

Most of our sites provide a water borne sewage system to which are connected the drains for the disposal of liquid wastes. This is undoubtedly the best system from a public health point of view, and local authorities should not agree to the use of pail closets except for the smallest sites. Pail closets, even with the use of a chemical substance are a type of sanitation which even with the most careful management, are liable to create insanitary conditions which can cause serious disease.

The ideal sanitary facilities to be aimed at is for every site to have a water borne sewerage system, and for each caravan to have a drain so connected to the system that waste water from the caravan sink can be directly disposed of to the sewerage system.

Caravan and Camping Sites are controlled by Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936. There are escape clauses in this Section which permit the use of sites for this purpose without being licensed by the Council. We have a number of such sites in our district over which we have little or no control.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

438 visits by Inspectors during the year.  
2,240 visits by Operator.  
1,268 dead rats picked up.  
10,173 properties in the area.  
332 properties in which infestation was notified by the occupiers.  
92 properties in which infestation was otherwise discovered.  
2 major infestations by rats.  
314 minor infestations.  
38 infestations by mice only.  
354 infested premises treated.  
9 block control schemes carried out.

## BAKEHOUSES

6 inspections at Bakchouses (Non-power).  
44 inspections at Bakehouses (Power).

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, Sec. 14—ICE CREAM. ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947.

79 Visits to Ice Cream Premises.

65 samples of Ice Cream submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination.

37	were Ministry of Health's Provisional	Grade I
19	„ „ „ „ „	Grade II
3	„ „ „ „ „	Grade III
6	„ „ „ „ „	Grade IV

12 samples of Ice Cream were chemically examined and the results were:-

1	....	3.5% Fat Content	2	....	10.0% Fat Content
1	....	4.0% „	2	....	10.5% „
1	....	4.5% „	1	....	11.0% „
1	....	5.5% „	1	....	12.0% „
1	....	7.5% „	1	....	12.5% „

1 sample Iced Lolly and 1 sample of Frozen Fruit Juice submitted for examination were satisfactory.

12 premises registered during the year.

## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The following visits were made:-

Slaughterhouse, Butchers' Shops and Stores	....	....	....	337
Restaurants, Cafes and Kitchens	....	....	....	324
School Canteens	....	....	....	5
Food Stalls and Vehicles	....	....	....	24

The following were found to be unfit for human food :—

129	Tins of Milk	51	Tins of Beans
90	„ „ Fish	198	„ „ Peas
41	„ „ Soup	78	„ „ Carrots
140	„ „ Meat	92	„ „ Tomatoes
2	„ „ Meat Paste	1	„ „ Spaghetti
85	„ „ Luncheon Meat	18	„ „ Vegetables
106	„ „ Ham	13	„ „ Beetroot
1	„ „ Tongue	388	„ „ Fruit
6	„ „ Chicken	11	„ „ Tomato Juice
8	„ „ Sausages	6	„ „ Cream Whip
2	„ „ Apricots	1	„ „ Treacle
12	„ „ Jam	3	„ „ Cream
5	„ „ Fruit Pulp	4	„ „ Swiss Rolls
1	„ „ Apple Pie	1	„ „ Egg Preparation
1	Bottle of Sauce	3	Jars of Fruit Salad
19	Pkts. of Dates	1	„ „ Mincemeat
2	Beasts Kidney	39	„ „ Mustard
40	lbs. Rabbits	1	Pkt. of Shredded Wheat
162½	lbs. of Beef	30	lbs. of Sultanas
23	„ „ Bacon	30	„ „ Coco-nut Ice
50½	Stone of Fish	117	„ „ Sweets
30	lbs. of Prawns	1½	„ „ Sweetbreads
2	Chickens	105	„ „ Biscuits
2	lbs. Onions	220	„ „ Tea
289	„ Cabbage Greens	112	„ „ Sugar
1	Jar of Pickles	42½	„ „ Cheese
1	Cake	14	„ „ Processed Cheese

## CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	15
Number inspected .....	—	—	—	—	15
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Tuberculosis Only:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

## FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

Total number of Outbreaks	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each
—	—	—	—	—

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938

Particulars of samples taken under the above Act in the Clacton Urban District by the Weights and Measures Department of the Essex County Council:—

Article sampled	Number of Samples
Concentrated Yeast Extract .....	1
Creamed Tomato Soup .....	1
Cake Icing .....	1
Desiccated Coco-nut .....	1
Fillets of anchovies in olive oil .....	1
Fish Paste .....	3
Glace Cherries .....	1
Ground almonds .....	1

Honey	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Lobster and Tomato Paste	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lemon Curd	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Malt Vinegar	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Mincemeat	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meat Soup	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Mixed Cut Peel	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Milk whipping compound	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Oat Flakes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pic apples	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pork Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Potato Crisps	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Quick cooking oats	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Real turtle soup	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sausages—beef	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sausages—pork	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sliced apples in light syrup	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Smoked fish fillets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sweet orange marmalade	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tomato soup	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Toasted wheat flakes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vegetable macedoine	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whisky	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wheat flakes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							—
							68
							—

Of the above, three samples were found to be unsatisfactory, viz:							
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Spiced Brisling Paste	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

#### REMOVAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

		£	s.	d.
Trade refuse is removed by arrangement, the gross income from such source for 1951 being	...	356	0	0
Total gross cost of collection of domestic and trade refuse	9,749	0	0	0
Gross cost per ton collection	1	7	11.	0
Total net cost of collection	3,573	0	0	0
Net cost per ton collection	10	2.	0	0
Income from Waste Paper Salvage	5,820	0	0	0
Total weight of refuse collected	6979	tons		
Total weight of paper collected	348	tons		

## DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

The total amount of refuse dealt with during the year was ....	7,074 tons
Income from salvaged materials ....	1,708 0 0
Total gross cost of disposal ....	4,631 0 0
Gross cost per ton disposal ....	13 11.1
Total net cost of disposal ....	2,892 0 0
Net cost per ton disposal ....	8 2.1

## STREET AND PROMENADE CLEANSING

Total cost of Street and Promenade Cleansing ....	£3,971
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## STREET GULLIES

Cleansed by mechanical means (hired service) four times this year.

Total cost ....	£421
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## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are twenty-one public conveniences as undermentioned:—

Convenience	Water Closets		Urinal Accom.	Wash Basins	
	M	F	—	M	F
West Avenue ....	8	16	13 stalls	9	4
Jetty ....	6	9	8 stalls	4	4
Westcliff ....	9	8	9 stalls	8	5
Anglefield ....	5	10	8 stalls	3	3
Eastcliff ....	2	4	3 stalls	—	—
Magdalen Green ....	2	2	4 stalls	—	—
Marine ....	2	3	10 stalls	—	1
Ship ....	2	3	5 stalls	—	—
Holiday Home ....	4	7	7 stalls	4	4
Garden Road, Jay-Wick ....	2	2	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ ' plain	—	—
Bus Park, Jay-Wick ....	2	3	8' plain	—	—
Holland Recreation Ground ....	2	2	6' plain	1	1
Car Park, Old Road, Female ....	—	10	—	—	3
Car Park, Old Road, Male ....	3	—	24' plain	2	—
Clacton Recreation Ground ....	2	4	5 stalls	—	—
Brighton Road ....	2	3	10' plain	—	—
Lyndhurst Road ....	2	3	10' plain	—	—

Happy Valley Recreation		Ground	1	1	—	1
High Street Car Park	....	1	3	23'	plain	—
Westcliff, Femalc	....	—	15	—	—	—
Lion Point, Jay-Wick	....	2	2	9'	plain	—
Totals		59	110	—	32	3

804 inspections at Public Conveniences.

### Expenditure:—

Working Expenses	....	....	....	....	£5,870
Loan Charges	....	....	....	....	£1,049
					<hr/>
					£6,919
Income	....	....	....	....	£5,640
					<hr/>
Deficit charged to General Fund	....	....	....	....	£1,279

## SECTION D

## HOUSING

## I.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year 1951:—

## II.—Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .....

II.—Action under Statutory Powers:—

(a) Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936, Secs. 9, 10 and 16:					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....					2
(2) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notices:					
(a) By owners .....					Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....					Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....					3
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:					
(a) By owners .....					2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .....					1
(c) Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936, Secs. 11 and 13:					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made .....					1
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished .....					Nil
(d) Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 12:					
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made .....					Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit....					

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Inspections re permitted numbers .....					39
Inspections re overcrowding .....					6
Enquiries for other Local Authorities regarding housing accommodation .....					1
Visits re permits for timber (flooring) .....					51
Visits re unclean houses.....					7

NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING 1951.

By Private Enterprise.....	....	....	....	Houses	....	7
By the Council .....	....	....	....	Houses	....	28
				Total	....	35

Total houses erected since 1946:—

1946	....	....	9
1947	....	....	52
1948	....	....	109
1949	....	....	56
1950	....	....	37
1951	....	....	35
			—
	Total	....	298
			—

## Prevention and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	18	7	—
Encephalitis Infective	1	1	—
Measles	412	7	—
Whooping Cough	22	—	—
Hepatitis	13	3	1
Totals	466	18	1

Since the late war there has been a country wide increase in certain diseases such as Poliomyelitis, Infective hepatitis, dysentery, and food poisoning. Food Poisoning is widespread, and few of us have not suffered the distress of an attack. Cases and carriers (persons may carry the germs in their bodies without suffering any illness) of such diseases excrete the germs causing the disease by the bowel during defecation and to a lesser extent during the passage of urine. The fingers of a person excreting germs in this way are certain to become contaminated after use of the lavatory, and from the fingers the germs may be spread to other susceptible persons unless the fingers are decontaminated by adequate washing with soap, water, and a nail brush.

Germs which cause disease in man can rapidly multiply outside the human body if given favourable conditions. If given suitable food which contains moisture, sufficient time and a temperature approaching blood heat, a very few germs can become many millions in 24—48 hours. They thrive on such food as processed meats, sausages, meat pies, milk, custards and other made up dishes. Knowledge of these facts shows the way to prevent food becoming contaminated and how to minimise the risk should food accidentally become contaminated.

First of all we must realise that germs are so small that thousands of them heaped together cannot be seen by the naked eye. Food may be heavily contaminated yet look and smell all right and some germs (those

causing food poisoning particularly) during multiplication produce a poison in the food which is not destroyed by boiling or roasting, although the germs themselves would be killed. For practical purposes this means that re-heating or re-cooking is not a certain safeguard.

There are certain principles which should be adopted to prevent food poisoning and other diseases. First, a person who is liable to cause infection of food should not be engaged in the preparation of food. Persons who suffer from looseness of the bowel, or skin diseases, boils, cuts, sore throats, heavy colds, etc., are likely to harbour dangerous germs, and such persons should not prepare food for others. All food handlers must be really conscientious in cleaning their hands after use of the toilet. This should be done with soap, hot water, and a nail brush, and must never be omitted. Finger nails should be kept short and clean. Smoking should be discouraged, as also should nose-picking and scratching.

Food should be prepared and eaten on the same day. If this is done the time factor will be shortened which is very important. If this is not possible then all food should be stored in a refrigerator. These germs will not multiply at near freezing temperatures, although freezing will not destroy them.

Food should be safeguarded against dust or dirt. There is always danger in dirt. Rats and mice, cats and dogs, flies, all play a part in contaminating food, and those persons in the food trade who are conscious of their responsibilities never allow such in their premises.

Most persons will co-operate if they understand the reasons and the principles involved in food hygiene, and much of our time is engaged in persuading and educating food handlers towards higher standards.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

For the fifth year in succession, Clacton has been free from Diphtheria. During 1951, 125 children between one and five years and 5 between five and fifteen years received the full course of inoculations at the Clinic, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton. 46 children received a secondary or re-inforcing injection.

The mortality and incidence of Diphtheria for the whole country continue to fall. In 1951, deaths numbered 34 against a yearly average of about 2,800 between 1930 and 1940. Nevertheless it is disturbing to learn, possibly because the fear of Diphtheria has declined, that fewer and fewer parents are presenting their babies for immunisation. It is vital to secure that not less than 75 per cent of babies are immunised before their first birthday, while it is estimated that only 28 per cent of children under one year old were immunised during 1951. If parents leave their children unprotected, there may be a return of Diphtheria outbreaks.

## VACCINATION.

Vaccination is no longer compulsory ; it is however, the only known protection against smallpox. Although smallpox only occasionally occurs in this country, due to the arrival from abroad of an infected person, and outbreaks have rapidly been brought under control by energetic action on the part of Public Health Departments, nevertheless smallpox is one of the most fatal diseases and approximately 30 per cent of the unvaccinated who contract the disease, die.

Vaccination of infants is easily carried out, and causes very little disturbance in the children. Parents are strongly urged to have their infants protected against this dangerous disease.

## CANCER

59 deaths were caused by this disease giving a rate per thousand of the population of 2.5.

Cancer affecting certain parts of the body, if treated early, is curable. Medical science can cure approximately 95 per cent of all skin cancers, but only 80 per cent are being cured. Stomach cancers are curable in 80 per cent of cases, but only 23 per cent are being cured. 95 per cent of breast cancers can be cured but only 47 per cent of such cases are being cured. Rectal cancer could be cured in 85 per cent of cases, but only 14 per cent actually are being cured.

The tragic gap between the curable and the cured can be blamed on the fact that most cases are in the late stage before they consult the doctor or are seen by the surgeon.

A National Campaign to educate members of the public concerning cancer would help to shorten this delay between the onset of symptoms and the seeking of medical advice.

Cancer death rates for Clacton since 1920 (per 1,000 population):—

1920	....	1.4	1930	....	1.9	1940	....	1.7
1921	....	0.8	1931	....	1.9	1941	....	1.7
1922	....	1.9	1932	....	1.3	1942	....	3.8
1923	....	1.9	1933	....	1.7	1943	....	3.2
1924	....	1.3	1934	....	1.1	1944	....	2.1
1925	....	0.9	1935	....	2.1	1945	....	2.3
1926	....	1.3	1936	....	1.5	1946	....	3.1
1927	....	1.6	1937	....	1.7	1947	....	2.7
1928	....	1.4	1938	....	2.0	1948	....	2.0
1929	....	1.6	1939	....	2.3	1949	....	2.4
						1950	....	2.4
						1951	....	2.5

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of cases notified and deaths occurring during the year 1951 are given below:—

Ages in Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5-15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
55-65	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 upwards	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—
Totals	1	1	3	1	5	1	2	1

New Cases 6

Deaths 9

Notifications and deaths from Tuberculosis since 1939:—

Year	New cases	Deaths
1939	10	5
1940	16	9
1941	8	4
1942	18	5
1943	18	6
1944	19	2
1945	10	5
1946	16	5
1947	11	7
1948	7	9
1949	14	13
1950	10	10
1951	6	9

The following figures give the number of cases on the Register at the end of 1951:—

Respiratory	Male	....	47	Non-Respiratory	Male	....
,,	Female	....	38	,,	,,	....
			—			
	Total	....	85			—
					Total	....

TOTAL CASES      ....      ....      108

The 108 cases of Tuberculosis were notified as follows:—

Age groups in years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1—5	—	—	1	—	1
5—15	—	3	3	2	8
15—25	8	9	1	2	20
25—35	17	18	—	5	40
35—45	12	5	1	3	21
45—55	4	3	—	2	9
55—65	4	—	1	1	6
65 upwards	2	—	1	—	3
Totals	47	38	8	15	108







